

D.T.E. 00-83

Petition of Cambridge Electric Light Company and Commonwealth Electric Company for approval of their Transition Charge Reconciliation filing, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §1A(a), 220 C.M.R. § 11.03 (4)(e), and D.P.U./D.T.E. 97-111.

APPEARANCE: John Cope-Flanagan, Esq.

NSTAR Service Company

800 Boylston Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02199

FOR: COMMONWEALTH ELECTRIC COMPANY

CAMBRIDGE ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY

Petitioner

I. INTRODUCTION

On November 13, 2000, Commonwealth Electric Company ("Commonwealth") and Cambridge Electric Light Company ("Cambridge") (collectively, "Companies" or "COM/Elec") filed its 2000 Reconciliation Filing for approval by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department"). Included in this filing is a reconciliation of 1999 and 2000 transition, transmission, standard offer, and default service costs and revenues, and proposed updated charges and tariffs to be effective January 1, 2001. The Companies requested that their proposed tariffs become effective January 1, 2001. The Department docketed the filing as D.T.E. 00-83. The Companies' last reconciliation filing was approved subject to further investigation. Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company, D.T.E. 99-90 (2000); D.T.E. 99-90-A (2000).

On December 13, 2000, the Department requested comments on the Companies' proposed rate adjustments and reconciliation for 2001. Notice was issued to all the participants in Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company, D.P.U./D.T.E. 97-111 (1998), D.T.E. 98-78/83 (1998), and D.T.E. 99-90. The Department received comments from the Attorney General of the Commonwealth ("Attorney General") on December 21, 2000. On December 22, 2000, the Companies filed a response to the Attorney General's comments. On December 19, 2000, the Department received the Companies' responses to information requests promulgated by the Department.

According to the Companies, the rate adjustments affect COM/Elec's standard offer service, transmission service, demand-side management, renewables, and transition charges. In addition, the Companies state that several of COM/Elec's distribution tariffs have been revised in a revenue-neutral manner in order to ensure that they continue to meet the rate reductions required under the Electric Utility Restructuring Act of 1997.

The Department determines that further investigation is necessary into this filing. The Department finds, however, that the tariffs filed by the Companies on November 13, 2000, for service on and after January 1, 2001, are in compliance with Department precedent⁽¹⁾ and, therefore, allowance is in the public interest. The rate changes are allowed subject to reconciliation pursuant to the Department's ongoing investigation.

II. ORDER

After due notice and consideration, it is

ORDERED: That the tariffs filed by Commonwealth Electric Company with the

Department on November 13, 2000, M.D.T.E. Nos. 472 through and including 486, are ALLOWED; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED: That the tariffs filed by Cambridge Electric Light Company with the Department on November 13, 2000, M.D.T.E. Nos. 733 through and including 749, are ALLOWED; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED: That the rate changes for Commonwealth Electric Company and Cambridge Electric Light Company are ALLOWED subject to reconciliation pursuant to the Department's investigation; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED: That Commonwealth Electric Company and Cambridge Electric Light Company comply with any and all other directives contained in this Order.

By Order of the Department,

James Connelly, Chairman

W. Robert Keating, Commissioner

Paul B. Vasington, Commissioner

Eugene J. Sullivan, Jr., Commissioner

Deirdre K. Manning, Commissioner

1. Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company,

D.T.E. 99-90 (December 17, 1999 Letter); Standard Offer Service Fuel Adjustment,

D.T.E. 00-66, 00-67, 00-70 (December 4, 2000 Letter Order).